

National Family Benefit Scheme in Orissa

850. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre has agreed to provide Rs. 50 crore under the National Family Benefit Scheme to Orissa to clear the backlog and also enhanced funding of Rs. 13 crores per annum under this scheme;

(b) so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the action plan of the Centre for urgent release of these funds to held the State to clear around 50,000 pending applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (c) As per guidelines of National Social Assistance Programme and Annapurana for release of funds, combined allocation of the three Schemes namely National Old Age Pension (NOAP), National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) and Annapurna is being made by Planning Commission and the Ministry of Rural Development and funds is released by Ministry of Finance on the recommendation of this Ministry. Against the allocation of Rs. 5899.77 lakh during 2005-06 Rs. 17021.70 lakh has been allocated for the year 2006-07 and an amount of Rs. 7540.51 lakh upto November, 2006 has already been released by Ministry of Finance to Orissa. As per guidelines the State Government have been given flexibility to allocate funds among the three schemes as per their requirement. Hence with the enhanced allocation, the State Government of Orissa can not only enhance its funding of National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) but also can clear the backlog under the NFBS.

Special grant for Orissa under NREGP

851. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Orissa has asked for a special grant of

Rs. 870 crore under NREGP as a sizeable number of persons, who want jobs under this scheme have not yet go any job;

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating the status of the proposal; and

(c) the time-frame within which the above amount would be sanctioned and the State apprised of the position, if not already done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Government of Orissa on 22.8.2006 has sent a proposal for release of next installment of Rs. 869.89 crores for the State under NREGA during the current financial year. As per the procedure prescribed for release of funds under the Act, utilisation certificates showing at least 60% utilization of funds released earlier needs to be submitted alongwith a proposal for release of next installment. As 16 districts of Orissa fulfilled the criteria for release of further funds under the Act, a sum of Rs. 396.96 crore has been released by the Ministry *vide* sanction order dated 14.9.2006.

Vigilance mechanism for rural development programmes

852. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had asked the State Governments to evolve a strict vigilance mechanism to ensure accuracy of muster rolls in the rural development programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Government had reacted to Governments directives, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) Under the wage employment schemes namely, National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) and Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), maintenance of muster rolls is mandatory. The Ministry of Rural Development has issued detailed guidelines to the State Governments for strict Vigilance Mechanism to ensure accuracy of the muster rolls.